The Sun.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 1881.

The regular circulation of THE SUN *for the week ending June 25, 1881, was:*

Sunday	126,885	Weekly	64,065
Monday	124,713	Thursday	124,730
Tuesday	125,022	Friday	124,173
Wednesday	125,187	Saturday	125,242
Total for the week			940,016

John I. Davenport Acting President of the United States.

Is it not about time that the old-fashioned preliminary of an election should be observed before a man is permitted to act as President of these United States?

For four years we have endured a man acting in that capacity who, it is conceded by the best men of his own party, was never elected; and now one Mr. JOHN I. DAVENPORT, who does not even pretend to have received one solitary vote for President, steps forward and assumes to perform the highest function of that office, the making of executive appointments!

Mr. DAVENPORT offered a distinguished Republican member of our State Senate the office of Marshal for the most important district in the United States. When asked by an investigating committee if he had been authorized by the President to make this offer, he contemptuously replied that the President did not even know of the existence of Mr. STRAHAN, or words to that effect.

And yet there is no reason to doubt—on the contrary, from all the testimony in the case there is every reason to believe—that *if Mr.* DAVENPORT'S *offer of the Marshalship for the Southern District of New York had been promptly accepted, this man whom President* GARFIELD *had never before heard of would to-day have held that office.*

Mr. DAVENPORT may be a much better man than Mr. GARFIELD; but then he has never been elected President of the United States, and cannot be until more than three years subsequent to the present time.

An Experiment in College Government.

The commencement season is generally prolific in academical literature of a certain sort; but it is seldom that questions relating to university study and discipline are treated with much originality. It is with surprise, therefore, that we learn of a really novel experiment in college government.

There are of course two theories as to the kind and degree of control which academical authorities should exercise over undergraduates. One of these systems is practised at Oxford and Cambridge; the other is commended by the example of the German universities. In the former institutions a student's life is subjected to constant supervision, and his obedience to an elaborate code of regulations is enforced by penalties ranging from temporary confinement within the college enclosure to expulsion from the university. This exercise of parental authority practically imposes a good deal of police duty on the officers of an English college, and develops a spirit of aggression, not to say hostility, on the part of undergraduates. There is nothing analogous in the relation of professors and students in a German university. The instructors are employed to teach men, not to govern boys; and it is quite optional with the student how far he shall profit by his opportunities.

Twenty years ago all American colleges were managed upon principles essentially identical with those accepted at Oxford and Cambridge. The fact that the average age at which young men entered college was much lower then than it is now, seemed to justify the assumption that undergraduates must needs be incapable of self-control, and that a college faculty, instead of contenting itself with supplying the means of education, must, in a strict and emphatic sense, discharge a parent's duties. Recently, however, there has been a strong tendency on the part of the oldest and most distinguished American institutions to abandon their traditions of academical discipline, and, following the custom of German universities, to leave the students pretty much to themselves. Yet it seems plain that their example cannot safely be followed in those smaller seminaries which, whether we look to the age of undergraduates or the scope of study, should rather be described as schools than as universities. No one pretends that boys of fifteen should be left to follow their individual whims. Some means of government must be found; but in the case of a young and ill-endowed institution, it is hard to see how a large body of raw youth can be controlled, without demanding from the professors, usually few in number and overworked, an expenditure of time and energy which they cannot afford. This problem, which has given so much trouble to the managers of American colleges, seems to have been solved in Illinois, by inducing the students to govern themselves; by transforming, in other words, the whole corps of undergraduates into a body politic, with laws, tribunals, and executive officers of its own.

This experiment has been made at the Illinois State University, where a students' government was organized in 1870. At that time there were about 175 undergraduates, but the number has since increased to some 400. A committee of students was chosen to confer with the regent of the university, and to prepare the draft for a constitution and by-laws. This constitution authorized the election of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer by the body of undergraduates, and the appointment of a marshal and three judges. These judges constitute the college court, and all violations of the laws are tried by them without a jury. The lawmaking power was at first vested in the general assembly of the students; but after their number had been considerably augmented, a constitutional amendment provided for the election of a senate of 21 members, one-third of them to be chosen each term, and the period of service to be one year. All legislative power now resides in this senate, subject to the veto of the regent and faculty. Laws are made for the preservation of good order in the dormitory buildings, against gambling and drinking, against injury of college property, and against violations of sundry rights of students. The penalties consist of fines, varying in amount from a few cents to $5; obstinate culprits and those who refuse to pay the fines being reported to the faculty, who retain all power to suspend or expel a student. We should note that the judges license those students who pass the requisite examination in the college constitution and laws, to practise as attorneys in the college court; but no student is debarred from appearing and pleading in his own cause.

On the whole, this novel scheme of government seems to have worked well, though not always with perfect smoothness. The elections of executive officers are sometimes very hotly contested, and it has even been proposed in the general assembly of students to abrogate the government altogether, but a large majority has invariably voted in favor of its continuance. On one occasion the question of its legality was raised, and appeal was made to the Attorney-General of the State; but the system was pronounced lawful, if authorized by the trustees. In law, the student government is considered as a committee or agent of the faculty; and although its sentences cannot be legally enforced, the faculty may act upon cases reported to them as upon other sufficient information. This plan, under which undergraduates are encouraged to govern themselves, has now been in operation at the Illinois State University upward of ten years, and it is pronounced successful by those who have had the best opportunities of observing it. It is certainly calculated to work a remarkable change in college life. The notion, so fatal to ordinary college governments, that the concealment of a comrade's transgressions against public order is a duty of good fellowship, is here in a large measure deprived of its power. Looking at its essential principle, we can see that the experiment described is an organization of the better elements of college students against the worse. Students acting collectively as a government, defending their own corporate interest, can hardly be stigmatized and shamed by the cry that they are betraying their comrades.

The Central Railroad and the Albany Bribery.

The testimony given by Vice-President TILLINGHAST of the New York Central Railroad on Thursday is among the most significant that has been heard by the Bribery Investigating Committee. It shows precisely in what shape the money offered and used in the interest of CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW reached the hands of the lobby men.

On the 24th of May, one week before the balloting for Senators began, and in the midst of the preparations for the contest, Mr. TILLINGHAST went to Albany with a check for $20,000 drawn by KISSAM, WHITNEY & Co. of this city. On the second day after his arrival he had the check cashed by SPENCER, TRASK & Co., and thereafter, by his own admission, with the money in his pocket, he had an interview with Mr. DEPEW, and called at the rooms of that notorious lobbyist, A. D. BARBER.

Mr. TILLINGHAST testified that he subsequently took the $20,000 intact to Buffalo, and there gave it to a bank; and he doubtless did give such a sum to a bank in that city. He would hardly have ventured to testify that such had been the fact unless it were true. *But he admitted that he did not make any such transfer until after he had been subpœnaed to appear before the Investigating Committee*, nearly three weeks after his arrival in Buffalo.

That transaction is, therefore, no evidence whatever that the $20,000 he received in currency from SPENCER, TRASK & Co. in Albany was ever taken out of that city by him. A similar sum could have been procured after Mr. TILLINGHAST had been subpœnaed, and could have been deposited in Buffalo to furnish an explanation for the disposal of the incriminating money.

Both the manner and matter of Mr. TILLINGHAST'S testimony show that such a suggestion does him no injustice.

The reason given by him for getting the check for $20,000 cashed in Albany, while wishing to use it in Buffalo, was that he thought there might be a scarcity of currency in the latter city; but further questioning led him to say that he intended to use the money for a real estate transaction; and when asked why a check would not have done as well for that as currency, he could only say, "Perhaps it would, but I have a fancy for currency rather than checks." And this fancy Mr. TILLINGHAST, an expert business man, assigns as the only reason for such an unusual and unsafe course as carrying $20,000 in cash from Albany to Buffalo!

But it is when we come to the questioning as to the disposal of this money after its alleged arrival in Buffalo, that Mr. TILLINGHAST appears to the most serious disadvantage. He testified that ten days after he had cashed the check, the money was still in his safe. He was then interrogated:

Q.—Is it there now? A.—What I haven't used is there. I choose not to tell how I used it. It was in my business.

Q.—Are you able to tell how you disposed of it? A.—I am not.

Q.—Are you sure that you cannot tell how you used that money? A.—Not in detail.

Q.—Have you no vouchers? A.—None.

Q.—Have you used the whole $20,000? A.—Yes, and more besides.

A little further on, however, he said that while he had the money in his safe, a bank officer came to him and borrowed it.

Thus he first testified that so much of the money as he had not used was still in his safe; and then he testified that he had used the whole amount and more. First, also, he testified that he had used the money in his business, but could not tell in detail how; and then he testified that he had given it all to a bank officer, who wanted it.

Mr. TILLINGHAST'S testimony is worse than that of SESSIONS. Yet we are told that the New York Central and its attorney, CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, are in no way connected with the bribery at Albany!

Reform of the Italian Franchise.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies has at last so far yielded to the popular demand as to assent to a moderate extension of the suffrage. The action of the Liberals, however, on Wednesday of last week fell far short of fulfilling the pledges upon which they were elected, for under the new law the enjoyment of the franchise will still be confined to a smaller fraction of the population than is the case in any other European country except Belgium.

The principle of universal suffrage has been adopted in Germany and France, so far as the Reichstag and the lower House of the French Legislature are concerned. The right of every man to vote has also been persistently asserted by Italian Republicans ever since the consolidation of the peninsular kingdom. The present restrictions of the franchise, which were modelled on those that obtained in England before the passage of the second Reform bill, concentrate all political power in the hands of a small body made up of landowners, rich tradesmen, and the professional classes. It was not such men as these who organized revolution and created a united Italy, and that they alone should profit by the great national uprising seems a grievous and intolerable thing to the masses of the population. Yet, although more than twenty years have passed since the reactionary Governments were subverted in Lombardy and in Naples, the bulk of the Italian nation has up to the present hour remained politically disinherited, with no more voice in the making of its laws than it had under the Bourbon and the Austrian.

The Moderates, as those members who occupy the right side of the Italian Chamber may appropriately be called, have been sufficiently candid and consistent in opposing a widening of the franchise. The Liberals, on the other hand, have made electoral reform the leading feature of their programme; but since their accession to office on the overthrow of the MINGHETTI Ministry they have continually found pretexts for evading or postponing it. The fact is that Moderates and Liberals in Italy differ but little, and are virtually united in sentiment and policy against Republicans on the one side and the Clerical party, which refuses to recognize the house of Savoy, on the other. In a word, devotion to the dynasty is the controlling motive of politicians both of the Right and of the Left, and there is no doubt that the CAIROLI and DEPRETIS Cabinets have shared the apprehensions of Signor MINGHETTI that an extension of the suffrage would put a weapon in the hands of the implacable enemies of the reigning family.

The number of BARSANTI clubs which have sprung up in all parts of the peninsula attests the energy with which the republican propaganda has been pressed among the disfranchised classes. These associations, which represent the ideas of MAZZINI, do not hesitate to avow their hostility to the present form of government, and to declare that the overthrow of the old rulers in Tuscany and Parma, in the Two Sicilies and the States of the Church, was scarcely worth accomplishing, if the sole outcome is to be a change of dynasties. The agitation for republican institutions has not only made great headway among the smaller tradesmen and the artisans of towns, but it has begun to seriously infect the army. But for the influence of GARIBALDI, who is steadfast in his loyalty to the house of Savoy, the revolutionary movement would have acquired much more impetus, and after his death it can hardly fail to become extremely formidable.

This is not the only danger apprehended by those Italian statesmen of the school of CAVOUR who honestly desire the maintenance of the existing régime. The priests still exercise an immense influence over the agricultural population in the Neapolitan provinces and in those parts of central Italy formerly included in the patrimony of St. PETER. It is true that thus far the present Pontiff has not rescinded the prohibition of PIUS IX., by which Catholics were forbidden to take part in the elections. But how long would this injunction be continued after universal suffrage had enabled the Clerical party to control a large proportion, if not an actual majority, of the members of the Chamber of Deputies?

It is by such considerations that we can explain the reluctant and unsatisfactory concessions made by the DEPRETIS Ministry in their electoral reform bill, on June 15. An amendment in favor of universal suffrage was defeated by the overwhelming majority of 314 to 39. Even Signor CRISPI'S proposal that the franchise should be conferred on all who could read and write, without reference to their property, was rejected by a vote of 220 to 154. The bill, as passed, grants the suffrage to those who can read and write, provided they pay taxes to the amount of twenty lire. By adding this property qualification to the educational requisite, the DEPRETIS Cabinet aims a blow at Republicans as well as Catholics, and demonstrates its resolve that the enemies of the dynasty shall profit as little as possible by the reforms which they could defer no longer.

An Attempt to Discredit Trial by Jury.

In the latest number of the *Atlantic Monthly* is an article by Mr. JOHN C. DODGE, on trial by jury in civil suits, which begins with the statement that there is in the community a widespread distrust of the trial by jury. We should be sorry to believe that this statement was correct. We do not think it is correct so far as the people of the State of New York are concerned. But the evident purpose of the paper which we have mentioned is to increase whatever distrust may exist anywhere on the subject, and for that reason we deem it worthy of notice, in order that its weakness as an argument may be pointed out.

Considerable space is devoted to a sketch of the origin and history of trial by jury, which seems chiefly designed to show that BLACKSTONE was mistaken in supposing that it was in use among the earliest Saxon colonies or that it was secured by Magna Charta. We are told that modern investigation indicates that the institution is one of much less antiquity. In any event, whatever conclusion historians may come to in this respect, it seems to us old enough to be invaluable; and so we will proceed to the consideration of what Mr. DODGE calls the vital question.

"Is justice," he asks, "according to fixed rules of law, more likely to be attained by our present system, or by one in which both fact and law are settled by the Court without the intervention of a jury?"

His answer, of course, would be in favor of a trial by a Judge alone. He begins it by saying he has already adduced the testimony of experienced witnesses that in certain classes of cases juries are likely to go wrong. We look back in his paper to find this testimony, and discover that the witnesses are but two in number. The jury system can hardly be convicted without a larger array than this, even though it comprise so distinguished a Judge as Baron BROMWELL, who thought that juries generally rendered wrong verdicts in actions against railway companies. But is there no aptitude on the part of Judges to go wrong in this very class of cases? It may be true that defendant railroad corporations are disposed to shun juries, but are there not many Judges whom the plaintiff in such actions must be careful also to shun, if he would avoid the certainty of an adverse decision?

Mr. DODGE'S second and only other witness against the system of trial by jury is Mr. PATRICK FRASER, a Scotch advocate of some prominence, who pronounces jury trial the biggest farce that ever was instituted for the investigation and settlement of civil rights. After this we are not surprised to learn that he thinks there are a number of cases where, in the absence of a direction by the Judge, the verdict is sure to be one way. We will do Mr. FRASER the justice to say that these opinions appear to have been expressed in the course of a Parliamentary inquiry which related in part, at least, to the operation of the jury system in Scotland, but not elsewhere in Great Britain.

Such testimony as this is plainly insufficient to establish the proposition that juries in certain classes of cases are likely to go wrong. Mr. DODGE, however, presumably appealing to his own experience and that of his friends and acquaintances, says that no Judge, lawyer, or man of business, with practical knowledge of the subject, will deny it. We have already referred to a similar aptitude to go wrong on the part of Judges; and we might add, with equal propriety and force, and with ample evidence to sustain our assertion, that no Judge, lawyer, or man of business, with practical knowledge of the subject, will deny the existence of this tendency.

Among the other objections which are made to the juryman as compared with the single Judge, it is said that the qualifications of the former seldom enable him to compare and weigh evidence or properly to estimate the truthfulness of witnesses. But the experience of everyday life usually qualifies men in these respects. People are constantly obliged, in their own affairs, to decide upon the relative value of testimony and the veracity of those with whom they hold intercourse; and when required to act as jurors they can generally be relied upon to exercise in the interest of the litigants much the same vigilance which they have been accustomed to exercise for themselves.

The suggestion that Judges are less subject to be swayed by improper influences than jurymen, is one which cannot satisfactorily be discussed without fuller information on the subject than is accessible at present. Mr. DODGE'S conclusion, however, that justice is safe in the hands of Judges, is expressly based upon the history of the English courts since they became independent of the Crown, "and of our own where the life tenure of office has been preserved." It would thus appear that it is only in the Federal courts and in those States of the Union where a life tenure is established for the judiciary, that even he would dispense with the jury. The number of such States is very small.

He is constrained to admit that it is idle to expect any amendment of the Constitution which will take away the right of trial by jury in civil suits. "Tradition and prejudice on this subject," he tells us, "cannot yet be controlled by reason." But when the American people abandon what he calls their prejudice on this subject, they will go a long way toward abandoning their liberty.

The Greatest City in the World.

The late English census shows that London has been gaining rapidly in population during the last ten years. It now contains 3,814,571 inhabitants, or 560,311 more than in 1871. Its increase was only a little over 17 per cent., and yet so vast was its population in 1871 that during the ten years it has added to that total in actual numbers more people than our thriving city of Chicago now contains, and nearly as many as are included in Brooklyn, the third city of the Union in size.

During the period from 1870 to 1880, New York increased 28 per cent.; but it gained only 264,285 inhabitants, not half so many as were added to London between 1871 and 1881; and its population last year was considerably less than a third of that of the English capital. If our proportionate increase continues to be so much larger than that of London, of course we shall in due time catch up with the older city, and put it in the second place as to size; but that day is still far off, and as New York grows more populous it may show a smaller rate of increase. The remarkable thing about London is that a city of such unparalleled magnitude, in the midst of an old civilization, has been growing at a rate which, if continued, will give it double its present population less than half a century hence. Since 1861 it has gained over 33 per cent. If it keeps on increasing in that proportion, by the end of the first quarter of the twentieth century it will contain about seven millions of people.

But such estimates of what will happen in the future have only a curious interest. Many causes may contribute to make the growth of London much less proportionately during the next fifty years than it has been during the twenty just passed. It is an impressive fact, however, that so vast a capital, already far ahead of any other city of the world in population, should have increased one-third in twenty years, and that it should be now three times as large as it was sixty years ago.

The population of London was 1,378,000 in 1821. It has, therefore, gained nearly two millions and a half of inhabitants since then. The population of New York was 123,706 in 1820, and in 1880 it was nearly ten times that. During the twenty years from 1860 to 1880 it gained about one-half, against the increase of one-third in London between 1861 and 1881. It is safe to estimate that at the beginning of the next century we shall have made another gain that would give us over 1,800,000. Even then, therefore, New York would contain less than half the present population of London; and if that city added a third during the twenty years, it would still contain nearly three times as many people as New York.

There are, however, in the cities of New York, Brooklyn, and Jersey City and the contiguous towns, all substantially one, toward two million people; and therefore we may put our population as about half that of London at the present time, with the prospect of an increase to between three and four millions in 1900, against about five millions for London, if it keeps on growing as in the last twenty years. It is, therefore, not improbable that by the middle of the next century what we may call our greater New York will have a population which will compare favorably with that of London, even if it is not more numerous.

Finally, it will assist people to form a conception of the magnitude of London to be told that the English capital contains within a few thousands as many inhabitants as the census takers found last year in the six chief cities of the United States, namely, New York, Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Chicago, Boston, and St. Louis.

Republican Slaves in the Legislature.

According to high Republican authority—the *New York Tribune*, "FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY"—there are a very considerable number of men in the Senate and Assembly of this State who do not own themselves, but are virtually owned by other men, and practically are the abject political slaves of their masters.

A portion of what our esteemed contemporary—"FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY"—says on the subject we copy elsewhere in to-day's SUN. According to the representations of the *Tribune* an Emancipation act would seem to be the first thing in order, and ought even to take precedence of the election of United States Senators.

The glory of the Republican party is that it emancipated the colored slaves of the South. It is an enduring, a fadeless glory. But that great renown belongs to its earlier history, and contrasts strangely with its government of this State to-day—if the *Tribune*, "FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY," is to be depended on—through the instrumentality of ignominious white slaves.

The detectives who pursued the blackmailer, ZOLEI, through crowded streets, firing six shots from revolvers after him, ought not to escape the proper responsibility for their conduct. Not the slightest excuse for such criminal negligence can be found in the circumstances attending the occurrence. Policemen have no right to use their pistols as these men did, even if the lives of wholly innocent persons were not thus imperilled; but in streets as full of pedestrians as those contiguous to Canal, Hester, and Orchard streets, such behavior becomes reprehensible in the extreme. In the reports of the pursuit and arrest of ZOLEI published in the various newspapers, we are told that men, women, and children scattered in all directions to escape the flying bullets. If one of these persons had been killed, these culpable detectives would have been clearly guilty of manslaughter.

The reckless use of the pistol in this case is directly traceable to Detective CAMPBELL'S inexcusable killing of the blackmailer SAGERT. Owing to the peculiar circumstances of that case, CAMPBELL not only escaped censure, but was even very unwisely commended for his lack of self-control and presence of mind: and the detective force seems to have acquired the notion that where blackmailers are concerned revolvers may be used without hesitation. They ought to be disabused of this idea before it leads to further mischief.

In his recent speech in Philadelphia, Mr. FRANKLIN B. GOWEN repeats what he said long ago before a committee of Congress, namely, that the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania is the property of the Pennsylvania Railroad. He might also have said, but he did not, that so long as the Judges allow themselves to be transported on free passes, which the law allows only to "employees" of the company, they cannot complain if they are placed in that category.

WHITTAKER'S case having at length been fully examined and got rid of, Gen. WARREN'S case is in order again. On these two matters the labors of several score of officers for several hundred days have been expended.

Those who sit up to see the comet in the small hours of the morning will be rewarded for their pains by another celestial spectacle hardly less interesting than the comet itself. Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, and Mars are now grouped close together in the morning sky, and they present a splendid appearance. Venus is not far past her period of greatest brilliancy, and she outshines all the others, the vapors of the horizon making her scintillate in a manner that, though provoking enough in the telescope, adds to her beauty as seen by the unassisted eye. Jupiter is very bright; Saturn's rings are still opening wider, and Mars is growing larger as he nears the earth, and in a short time will be in a position to afford possessors of powerful telescopes a good view of his continents and oceans.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN EUROPE.

In spite of M. Gambetta's speech at Cahors, in which he declared that "the sword of France must never again be drawn for purposes of aggression," the relations between France and Italy are becoming more and more strained. The two countries have never been the best of friends. The defence of the Temporal Power, the military occupation of Rome, the annexation of Nice and Savoy, and now the Tunisian imbroglio, have added to the bad blood coursing though the excitable Italian veins. As if it were the intention of France to thoroughly enrage her neighbor, she is about to revise her customs regulations with respect to Italy, and to seriously increase the tariff on all articles crossing the Alps. The party to be benefited by a collision between the two countries is that of the Ultramontanes. Should a war break out and Italy be beaten, the Pope feels certain that he will recover his secular sovereignty. It may be imagined, therefore, with what glee the clerical party of both countries regard the situation, and it is far from improbable that they are at the bottom of the popular demonstrations which are taking place all over Italy. Perhaps the Italian patriots would not be so anxious to pick a quarrel with France if they knew how far they are playing into the hands of their treacherous foes.

It is also supposed that Bismarck would be very pleased at France's getting into a fight with any country, as such a struggle would turn away her attention from schemes of revenge on Germany. The German Chancellor, however, is too shrewd a man not to perceive that if France proved victorious over Italy it would only encourage her to renew her attack upon the Germans, and the prestige which would attach to the Papacy by the recovery of its status in Europe would excite anew the German Catholics, whom he has with difficulty conquered. If, then, the peace is preserved between France and Italy it may be taken as certain that Bismarck has been the pacificator. Should he be unable to preserve the peace the struggle will be a serious one. There is no doubt that, left to themselves, the French must ultimately be victorious by reason of their larger armies and far greater wealth. But the Italian troops must not be judged by comparison with our Baxter street fellow citizens. Through the centre of the Italian peninsula runs a chain of mountains, on which are to be found a race of men of remarkable muscular development. Their wild life has inured them to fatigue. From these men is recruited the famous Italian corps, the "Bersaglieri." One of the qualifications required of candidates for this regiment is that the applicant shall be able to leap over a stick which is placed at his own height from the ground. No tall, heavy men are allowed in the ranks. The peculiarity of the Bersaglieri is that they never march, but always move at a trot similar to the pace with which Rowell has managed to distance all competitors. This trot they can keep up for a great length of time, and it is rare, indeed, that a man is forced to leave the ranks on account of fatigue. The value of such a corps as skirmishers cannot be overestimated. The other branches of the Italian infantry are not to be despised, and, if their excitability can be restrained, will prove stubborn foes. The Italian cavalry, however, is a miserable failure. Italians cannot ride. The horses are good, sturdy animals, but neither officers nor men would figure well in a steeplechase. In a hurdle race among the officers near Naples, in 1878, not one of the competitors got round the course without a tumble, and although the horses took the fences beautifully, some of the riders fell at every jump.

It would be supposed that the Italians, with the sea so close to their doors, would make good seamen. They do not, however. Even the fishermen are dreadfully afraid of a capful of wind. The Italian navy possesses the most powerful ships in the world, but they are badly manned, and would probably fall an easy prey to a French man-of-war.

The death of Henri Vieuxtemps, the famous violinist, occurred in Algeria, whither he had gone for his health, shattered three years ago by an apoplectic stroke which left him partially paralyzed. This affliction forced him to resign his position as Professor in the Brussels Conservatoire, which gave him a pension of 6,000 francs. His reputation as a teacher was no less than his fame as a performer. Many of his pupils have already made names for themselves. As a composer Vieuxtemps was distinguished for the elegance of his phrases and for the ingenuity displayed in his arrangements of the orchestral parts of his concertos. He twice visited this country and made a good deal of money. He made his first appearance in public when eight years of age at a reception given by his master, Beriot. The great critic Fétis then predicted the fame Vieuxtemps attained.

The Commissioners who were appointed for the purpose of arranging all matters in dispute between the Boers and the English are proceeding rapidly with their duties, wich seem to be rendered easier by a change of sentiment coming over the colonists of South Africa. This revulsion of feeling has been in progress since the day Sir Bartle Frere left the Cape Colony. At the time of his departure, less than a year ago, Sir Bartle was almost worshipped by the British colonists. They saw in his policy the only salvation of their territory, and the least that could be done by them was to erect a statue to his memory. Now nothing is too bad to be said of him. It will be remembered that his policy consisted in forcing the Boers, the Zulus, Basutos, and other natives to come under British rule. It is not improbable that had he been able to carry out his programme he would still have retained the affection of the colony; but the disaster and disgrace which followed the attempt to bulldoze the Boers gave his enemies a base of operations against him which they have taken every opportunity to enlarge. It is to be noticed, however, that those colonists who are the least likely to be attacked by Zulus and Basutos are the bitterest against their former idol. The people whose territory adjoins that of the half-whipped Zulus and unwhipped Boers are in abject fear of their triumphant neighbors, and heartily wish Sir Bartle's armies back again to protect them from the dangers and insults to which they are being subjected. It is to be hoped that the reports in the Natal and Cape Town papers of excesses committed by the Boers since the withdrawal of the British forces have no other origin than in the vivid imaginations of the colonial reporters. With a Royal Commission among them, the Boers would scarcely expose their hands in any such foolish way. Moreover, they have returned the British guns which were captured at Potchefstroom, and, it is said, have even indulged in demonstrations of affection for Queen Victoria on the occasion of the celebration of her birthday. It may be cynical to question the genuineness of this truly Christian spirit of forgiveness, but an average Dutchman's hatred is not usually so easily quenched, and when the Commissioners' backs are turned their memory may be treated with a courtesy as scant as that which the Cape colonists have evinced toward Sir Bartle Frere.

The thirteenth annual Congress of the Coöperative Societies of England and Wales was recently held at Leeds. This is an age of conferences, and it is a remarkable fact that while political and diplomatic conferences are becoming more and more ineffectual—as, for example, the late European Congress at Berlin—social and economical congresses are becoming more practical, and, therefore, more useful. When the coöperative scheme was in its infancy all sorts of disasters were prophesied for it. That thirteen years of existence have only added to the popularity of the movement in Great Britain shows that the principles which it was established to uphold, namely, cash trading and honesty in dealing, were not the Utopian ideas they were at first thought to be. The original coöperators did not claim for their system that they could supply their customers with goods at a much cheaper rate than the regular shopkeepers. But they held out the inducements that for the same money they would supply a superior article, and one they could guarantee to be free from adulteration. This system has been adhered to, and it deserves the success it has achieved. The principal speaker at the Leeds Congress was Lord Derby, who declared that the subject of coöperation was "more important as regards the future of England than nine-tenths of those which are discussed in Parliament." How far the conflicting interests of labor and capital can be reconciled is one of the greatest problems of the day, and it is as pertinent here as it is in England. This is the true significance of the coöperative movement, which Lord Derby thinks is the only possible remedy for the growing evil of monopoly. It is urged against coöperation that it tends to do away with competition, and will in time become itself the greatest monopoly of all. But, as Lord Derby pointed out, even if the whole of Great Britain and Ireland were to be organized into a single trading and manufacturing company, it would still have to compete with the rest of the world. Of course the difficulty which coöperators have to contend against is that it is next to impossible to find a number of men who will faithfully work for the common good. Some of them have private axes to grind, and so the whole scheme results in failure. In no country in the world is there such a need of coöperation as in America. People here pay ready money, so the difficulty of overthrowing the credit system, with which England is honeycombed, does not exist here. The dearness and fraudulent character of our goods are beyond belief, yet the difficulty of procuring honest management would wreck most enterprises of the kind before they could get out of port.

That there is no doubt about the advisability of coöperation when applied to charitable purposes has been shown by the immense success which has attended the efforts of the ladies and gentlemen who projected and carried out the scheme of "The Old English Fair" at the Albert Hall for the benefit of the Chelsea Hospital for Women. It was thought best that the period of old England illustrated should be that of Elizabeth. Among the keepers of stalls in this fancy fair were Ladies Churchill, Kintore, Conyngham, Cadogan, Coventry, Clarendon, Castlereagh, Grey de Wilton, Scarborough, Zetland, Newport, Leamington, and many others. These ladies presided over different stalls, each having a sign of its own, such as "The Sherwood Oak," "The Golden Fleece," "The Silver Shield," "The Rose and Thistle," and so on. The costumes of the aristocratic storekeepers were rich and picturesque in the extreme. At "The Sherwood Oak" the prevailing color was russet brown, with the large Elizabethan ruff encircling the neck. Pale blue and silver was worn by the occupant of "The Silver Shield." Gold was the prevailing hue at "The Golden Fleece." A good deal of latitude was allowed as to the style of costume, but the most admired of all was a dress of red velvet and yellow satin, topped by a black hat with yellow plume, worn by Lady Garvagh. The festivities were opened by the Princess Christian, and the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Princess Louise mingled with the throng. The future Queen of England seemed to enjoy herself immensely, and her husband was quite in his element among all the pretty women. He gave ten guineas for a pair of Persian mittens, and a guinea for a cigar, both bought of the same lady—a Miss Chambers.

The interior of the hall was a very pretty sight. On one side was an Elizabethan mansion, on the other a feudal castle, and in the middle rose a veritable May pole. The Chelsea Hospital will benefit to the extent of $50,000.

Another festivity took place on the centenary of the birth of George Stephenson, the father of the English railroad system. It is difficult to believe that only fifty years have elapsed since the opening of the first line for regular traffic. The extraordinary story of the railways is not more wonderful than that of their originator. Stephenson began life as a lad in a colliery, which is probably even a lower beginning than driving mules on a canal towpath. His parents were too poor to send him to school, and England in those days could not boast of the smallest facilities for educating the poorer classes. Yet this man revolutionized the locomotion of the world. He did not discover the locomotive engine, but his genius turned what was only a scientific toy into a practical machine.

The annual horse show at the Agricultural Hall did not justify the croakings of those who think that the breed of English hunters is deteriorating; but there can be little doubt that a few more years of agricultural depression will seriously diminish the supply of good horseflesh. Nearly every farmer now has a likely colt or two on hand, which he keeps for his own riding. If they turn out to be good "over the sticks," they fetch easily $400 or $500, which gives the breeder a fair profit. Not many of the colts bred turn out to be worth "breaking to hounds," in which case their value may be $150. This sum does not pay the breeder for his trouble. On account of the uncertainty of the speculation, the impoverished farmer will be forced to deny himself the luxury of a fast horse, and the prices will, it is thought, double in the next five years.

The London *Morning Post*, which for many years has been the organ of the fashionable world, has reduced it price from three pence to one penny. Sir Algernon Borthwick, the proprietor and chief editor, has, so the cable informs us, celebrated his fresh start in the journalistic field by an able article on Irish affairs which will be likely to startle his aristocratic subscribers. He, in effect, advocates the Home Rule doctrine, on the ground that "the Irish race is actuated by racial propensities and customs totally distinct from those of the English." Therefore, Sir Alexander argues, "Ireland should not be made obedient to the same laws as ourselves." It is probable that these views will not meet with enthusiastic acceptance on the part of the British Government, whatever popularity they may achieve in Dublin.

N. L. T.

Journalistic Wisdom.

From the Oil City Derrick.

The wise printer leaveth the Albany vote standing, but the tool ; asseth on, distributeth it, and setteth it up again the next day.

The American Gentlemen's Magazine is the latest candidate for favor as a promoter of wholesome sport on land and water. The first number (June) contains interesting records of current sporting events up to date of publication. The letter press and illustrations are creditable.

SUNBEAMS.

—Although Ohio has furnished the nation with so many statesmen, there are within its bounds half a million children who do not go to Sunday school.

—Mr. Colfelt, a Philadelphia clergyman, has received from his congregation leave of absence until October, 1882. This is on account of his great need of rest. He will spend the time in European travel.

—The Cincinnati *Catholic Telegraph* makes a strong plea for the performance of marriage ceremonies in the morning, according to the English rule, rather than in the afternoon or evening, as is customary in most parts of this country.

—The steeple of the Congregational church in Northfield, Minn., was 135 feet high. A sudden storm knocked it to splinters and scattered its remains around the neighborhood. The church was not quite finished, but its wreck is almost total.

—The Rev. O. H. Tiffany, D. D., of Philadelphia, sailed yesterday in the Britannic. He is one of the leading men in the delegation to the Methodist Ecumenical Council which meets in September. During July and August Dr. Tiffany will spend his time in travel and recreation, and in correspondence with several papers in this country.

—The Rev. Richard Newton, D. D., well known as a preacher to children and a writer of books for them, is so ill that he is laid aside from his ministry, and is not expected to recover. Dr. Newton has for years been rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, in Philadelphia. He is a man of venerable appearance and kindly manner, and is over 70 years of age. He is the father of the Rev. R. Heber Newton.

—All clergymen who served as chaplains during the war, as well as all who labored with the Sanitary Commission and the Christian Commission, are invited to a reunion which is to be held at Chautauqua on the 5th and 6th of August. This is to be a combination of "love feast" and "experience meeting." It is expected that a large number of ex-workers will be brought together, some of whom are now becoming well stricken in years.

—The "Rational Dress Society" is the latest effort of some of the Christian women of England to institute a revolution in feminine apparel. These good ladies mean well, but have before them a task so difficult as to be almost impossible. Most of the ladies who engage in reformatory enterprise of this kind are those who hold queer and impracticable notions, and who would have all women dress according to a fixed fashion, as unvarying as that of the Chinese.

—The old delusion still prevails among many Sunday school teachers and others that by collecting and selling old postage stamps money can be raised for missionary purposes. Consequently children are asked to gather stamps and sell them. These good people ought by this time to know that there is no honest purpose to which old stamps can be put. The only final purchasers of them are the sinful persons who make a living by washing off the marks, putting new gum on, and selling the stamps thus renovated to unsuspecting customers who do not know the difference.

—A Canada man who lives in Ottawa has been imitating the example of Noah. It has been revealed to him that there will be a great flood. He has been building an ark in which he and his family may safely stem the current of the rising waters. The neighbors laugh at the precautions taken by this man, but he says he can stand it, for he has no doubt that Noah was laughed at by the people who saw him building his ark. The ark-builder's wife has been busy for some days cooking provisions for the expected voyage, and it is understood that the family will be ready to embark at a moment's notice when the waters rise sufficiently to float the vessel.

—While there has of late years been much apprehension in regard to the expected impossibility of entertaining conventions and assemblies numbering five or six hundred delegates, the Free Church of Scotland has an Assembly with a roll of 738. The report is that the body was not too large for the satisfactory conduct of business, and that the hospitality was abundant for all. In this country the plan of making each delegate pay board at a dollar a day has been found exceedingly felicitous. Especially in our crowded cities, where every family in moderate circumstances has use for nearly all its sleeping accommodations, the entertainment of a host of strangers is attended with many difficulties. Stranger guests are often likely to be nuisances; and the more so if they are greatly addicted to the smoking and chewing of tobacco, and to defiling the premises of persons who are not fond of the weed.

—The Fourth Avenue Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, has had many hard knocks and a continued succession of financial struggles. Possessing a stately house of worship which cost $125,000, it has had a narrow escape from being sold out by the Sheriff on a mortgage of $24,000. The pastor having resigned, a new man was wanted to preach off the debt and preach in a congregation. Against this old and popular expedient some of the trustees boldly presented opposition. They said that the debt should be paid before a pastor was called. The reply to this was that the raising of $24,000 without a pastor would be an impossibility. But a few enterprising brethren concluded to take the matter in hand. So, procuring the services of a venerable clergyman as a supply for the day, they took up last Sunday a subscription which in an hour and a half yielded the required amount. The Fourth avenue church is now saved from the grip of the Sheriff.

—A pleasant attraction is offered for the month of August to those who are fond of Bible study as carried on by Mr. Moody and his associates. Moody will spend the month at his home in Northfield, having as his special assistant the Rev. Andrew Bonar, D. D., of Glasgow, who has a great reputation as an expounder of the Bible. He is a brother of the celebrated hymn writer, Dr. Horatius Bonar. While neither Dr. Bonar nor Mr. Moody embrace the complete doctrines of those who are known as "Perfectionists," many of those who affiliate with the "holiness wing" of the Methodists will naturally resort to this series of meetings. There will be no formal organization of a convention or conference in connection with these meetings, but the sessions will be free to all who come. They will be held at such hours of the day as to allow ample time for rest and recreation. The Northfield householders announce their intention of opening their doors to visitors at a dollar a day.

—An expected funeral service was unexpectedly quenched in a retired neighborhood near Dexter, Maine, which is not greatly favored with mail privileges. Word was circulated that a venerable man had died, and that his obsequies would take place at an appointed time. For some miles and from several directions sorrowing friends and relations came in wagons to shed their tears over the old man's grave. These people were astonished on reaching the house to see not only that there were no tokens of mourning, but that the women folks of the family were busy baking pies. The patriarch himself was hoeing corn in an adjacent field, but pleasantly dropped his work and came into the house when he learned that his kinsfolk and acquaintance had come to attend his funeral. The pies proved timely, and an extemporized dinner festivity took the place of the expected funeral bake meats. The mistake was found to be chargeable to a blundersome or mischievous grandson.

—Grace Church, in Broadway, presents not only an elaborate and costly specimen of ecclesiastical architecture, but one of the prettiest bits of landscape gardening to be seen in connection with any city church. The praiseworthy ingenuity and taste displayed in the laying out of this not very large piece of ground may well serve as an incentive to other churches to make their grounds neat and elegant. This is a matter which is much neglected both in city and country. In the city it seldom occurs to church managers that the narrow patch of territory alongside of a sanctuary or in front of it can be made beautiful. In the country, where flowers cost little or nothing, and half of the church people could do the gardening if they would, many of the churches are surrounded by a distressed-looking enclosure of ground which appears as if it might be the model of a section of the wilderness through which Moses led the Israelites. Reform in this respect would cost little and be worth much.

—To-day is the off Sunday in Sunday school study, which comes round every three months. The day is purposely left blank in the appointment of the lessons, in order that the schools may be free to select for themselves. Several of the publication societies have issued lessons, but there is no concert of action, and as most of the schools occupied their time on Sunday last with a review of the quarter's lessons, there will be a great disposition to-day to indulge in speech making, singing, and other ways of spending the time which come under the head of "general exercises." For the next six months, beginning with the first Sunday in July, the lessons are to be on the Israelites and their exodus from Egypt. This course opens with the first chapter of the Book of Exodus, presenting a picture of the Israelites as they were when under Egyptian oppression. It takes up the thread of Bible history at the point where the closing lessons of last year dropped it. These lessons suggest the study of a portion of Scripture which is by no means difficult to understand, and with which most Sunday school teachers and their scholars are quite familiar.

—The "Post Graduate Course" contemplated at Andover Theological Seminary seems to be exactly what is needed to afford young ministers a thorough furnishing for their work. The instruction will cover such things as the Revision of the New Testament, the recently advanced theories of Robertson Smith and others concerning Biblical inspiration, methods of preaching, and of Sunday school work. Each of these will be treated by a professor eminent in the particular specialty. It has been the trouble with too much of the ministerial education of the day that it is not thorough enough, and that it does not equip the young men for conflict with the advanced and advancing thought which they are compelled to meet in every day's experience. There was a time when the objections of skeptics and other disputants could be met with a clerical sneer or a rebuke. That time is gone. People are now thinking for themselves more than ever. One of the results of this thinking is that they ask all sorts of questions, some of which are civil ones, and honestly propounded for the sake of obtaining information. On the other hand, some of the questions are sarcastic and calculated to trip the young minister up. For either class he must be amply prepared if it is his intention to succeed in his ministry.